From: The IACP
To: Hennessy, Vicki (SHF)
Subject: IACP"s The Lead: Police Using High-Tech Training For Active Shooter Scenarios.
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Greetings Vicki Hennessy

Wednesday, October 31, 2018

POLICING & POLICY

Police Using High-Tech Training For Active Shooter Scenarios.

NBC Nightly News (10/30, story 4, 2:10, Holt) ran a feature on "cutting-edge technology police are using to train for active shooter situations." NBC's Jeff Rossen reported that with the Meggitt Training System, police "can cue up any scenario they want," and officers in training "have no idea what's coming next."

US Attacks Renew Debate Over Domestic Terrorism Law.

The AP (10/30, Tucker, Balsamo) reports, "The package bombs sent to Democrats across the country and the killings of Jews at a Pittsburgh synagogue may seem like clear-cut cases of terrorism," but "the suspects will almost certainly never face terrorism charges" because "there's no domestic terrorism law." According to the AP, "Whether there should be one is a matter of debate," as "on one hand, there's the belief that white supremacists who kill for ideology should get the same terrorism label as Islamic State group supporters," while "on the other, there's concern about infringing on constitutional guarantees to protect free speech, no matter how abhorrent." The AP adds, "In the absence of domestic terrorism laws, the Justice Department relies on other statutes to prosecute ideologically motivated violence by people with no international ties," and "that makes it hard to track how often extremists driven by religious, racial or anti-government bias commit violence in the U.S.," and "also complicates efforts to develop a universally-accepted domestic terror definition."

UK Police Watchdog: Single Force Law Should Be Left Unchanged.

BBC News Online (UK) (10/30) reports, "Politicians should refrain from making more changes to the legislation that established Scotland's single force." BBC adds, "The warning came from Susan Deacon, who heads police watchdog, the Scottish Police Authority (SPA)." Deacon "also cautioned against a review of the SPA, describing it as 'one of the worst things that could be done at this point'." Her comments "follow criticism about a lack of governance at the SPA and failings within Police Scotland itself." According to BBC, "The force, set up in 2013, has experienced numerous crises including failings in its call centre responses, IT problems and the resignation of two chief constables."

Chicago Police Superintendent Defends Plan For New Police Academy.

The Chicago Tribune (10/30, Byrne) reports, "Chicago police Superintendent Eddie Johnson on Tuesday defended a planned $95 million police academy that activists oppose as a waste of money, saying the new facility is needed to train officers for the reforms required under a proposed federal consent decree." According to the Tribune, "Speaking to aldermen at the Police Department's annual budget hearing, Johnson said police trainees need 'scenario-based' instruction to prepare for incidents they will encounter on the street. 'The simple fact of it is, the training academy we currently utilize was built at the end of the 1970s,' Johnson said. 'It just doesn't have the capacity for us to do the training that best practices suggest that we do.'"

UK Police Threaten To Sue Government Over Budget Cuts.

The Guardian (UK) (10/30) reports, "Police chiefs in England and Wales will take legal action in the high court against the government unless it backs down on plans to deduct hundreds of millions of pounds from their budgets, the Guardian has learned." According to The Guardian, "The unprecedented decision was taken by the National Police Chiefs Council, which sent a formal letter to the Treasury saying it will seek a judicial review of the government's proposals," and "it marks a new low in relations between police chiefs and the government." The dispute "centres on the Treasury's recalculation of the money each force needed to pay into the police pension scheme," which "landed forces with a £420m bill, on top of the 19% cut in police funding since 2010."

CRIME & DRUGS

ATF: Bowers Purchased Guns Used In Attack Legally.

The New York Times (10/30, Oppel) reports, "The accused synagogue gunman, Robert Bowers, legally purchased the guns he used" in the Saturday attack in Pittsburgh. Officials say Bowers used an AR-15 assault rifle and three Glock .357 handguns in the attack. An investigation "has concluded that the guns were 'acquired and possessed legally by Bowers,'" the Philadelphia office of the ATF said on Tuesday.

German Nurse Admits To Killing 100 Patients.

Reuters (10/30, Wischgoll) reports from Oldenburg, Germany, "A German nurse admitted in court on Tuesday to being post-war Germany's deadliest serial killer, murdering 100 patients with lethal injections so that he could play the hero by trying to revive them." According to Reuters, "When judge Sebastian Buehrmann asked 41-year-old Niels Hoegel if the charges against him were valid, he responded in the affirmative, adding: 'All that I have admitted to is true.'" Hoegel "had already been sentenced to 15 years in jail in 2015 after he was found guilty of killing two patients with lethal injections." In January, "prosecutors brought new charges against him for killing another 97 people," and "the court said in a statement that the number had gone up to 100."

British Gang Jailed Over Drug Operation.

BBC News Online (UK) (10/30) reports, "Nine members of a gang which transported large quantities of drugs from the West Midlands into Lincolnshire have been jailed." According to BBC, "Lincoln Crown Court heard couriers made repeated trips from Birmingham and Coventry bringing crack cocaine, heroin and cocaine to Boston and Grantham." The drugs "were said to be worth hundreds of thousands of pounds." BBC adds, "All nine pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply class A drugs between 1 May and 15 December 2017."

Officials Identify Suspect In 1990 Rape, Murder Of Arkansas Woman.

The Arkansas Democrat Gazette (10/30) reports from Conway, Arkansas, "After almost three decades, Faulkner County authorities have used DNA and genealogical research to identify a suspect in the rape and beating death of a woman who was kidnapped from a Greenbrier video store where she worked." According to the Democrat Gazette, "The sheriff's office on Monday publicly identified 'the prime suspect' in the death of Pamela Faye Felkins, 32, as the now-deceased Edward Keith Renegar, who was 32 at the time of the crime." Renegar "died of natural causes in Salt Lake City in September 2002." Sheriff Tim Ryals said there is still more work to do on the case.

Analyses: Number Of Hate Crime Victims In US May Be Under-Reported.

In a piece for USA Today (10/30), which is one story of "a 15-part investigation," Catherine Devine and Lillianna Byington of the Carnegie-Knight News21 program write that "more than 2.4 million crimes, whose victims suspect were motivated by hate, were committed across the United States in the five years between 2012 and 2016, according to a News21 analysis of the federal National Crime Victimization Survey." They say that "what the victimization survey found has not been reflected in the FBI's national hate crime data," as "the FBI counted only 30,000 hate crimes reported to them by local police" in the same five-year period. Attorney Roy Austin, a former DOJ deputy assistant attorney general in the civil rights division, is quoted saying, "It's important to look at the number of people who suspect they were a victim of a hate crime and not just the FBI data. People's perception is their reality."

The IACP, in partnership with COPS Office, has updated the Discover Policing website to include information about careers in law enforcement, job postings in your area, and how you can get involved with your local law enforcement agency. Check out the website at www.discoverpolicing.org.

TECHNOLOGY

UK Police Seek New Technology To Help Spot Knives.

The Daily Mail (UK) (10/30) reports, "The Home Office is seeking new technology to help tackle surging levels of knife crime." According to the Daily Mail, "Initial funding of up to £500,000 is available for research projects that could help police spot suspects who are carrying blades in crowded areas." The Daily Mail adds, "A notice detailing the competition states that it is 'seeking proposals for innovative technologies and approaches that help reduce knife crime in the UK'." The Home Office "is interested in methods that can detect people carrying knives in public spaces, including crowds and 'uncontrolled areas' where there is typically limited or no police presence."

ALSO IN THE NEWS

Halloween Costume With Shotgun Shells Sparks Concern On Florida Campus.

The Miami Herald (10/30, Feit) reports, "A Halloween costume caused a scare on a college campus Tuesday." According to the Herald, "It didn't involve ghosts or monsters, but one student's outfit caused alarm because what he was wearing included live rounds of ammunition." A University of Central Florida student "dressed as 'The Terminator,' in a classroom, according to campus police. 'The 20-year-old junior's outfit consisted of a leather jacket and a bandolier of live shotgun shells,' UCF Chief of Police Carl Metzger said at a news conference that was posted on the police department's Facebook page." Police "said the student had dozens of shotgun shells strapped to his chest," and Metzger "said it was ultimately determined that there was no threat to campus, and the student did not have a shotgun – real or a toy," but "concern was raised and a 911 call was made."

FBI Agents Join Area Police In Burlington, VT For Active Shooter Drill.

WPTZ-TV Burlington, VT (10/30) reports, "Dozens of police and emergency responders from across northern Vermont joined counterparts from the FBI Tuesday, working through challenges of an active shooter attack." FBI's Albany Field Office Supervisory Special Agent Eric Lurie "outlined the drill and the latest national statistics showing mass-casualty incidents are on the rise." Lurie and his team "came to Burlington at the request of University of Vermont Police Chief Leanne Tuomey."

Massive Training Operation Conducted At El Paso International Airport.

KVIA-TV El Paso, TX (10/30) reports on "late Monday night and early Tuesday morning," the El Paso International Airport "was the site of a full-scale emergency exercise with local, state and federal law enforcement, as well as non-governmental organizations and volunteers." The goal "is to prepare the airport for an attack or other emergency and make sure the traveling public is safe." The FBI and DPS "were just two of the participating agencies."

TUESDAY'S LEAD STORIES

- **Rosenstein: DOJ To Review Hate Crimes Nationwide.**
- **"Operation HalloCLEAN" Ends In Drug-Related Charges For 85 People In Southwestern Indiana.**
- **Surveillance Technology Helps Law Enforcement Solve Crimes.**

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